GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4347
ANSWERED ON:28.03.2017
Loss of Cotton Crops
Singh Shri Ravneet

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the loss of cotton crop in Punjab and Haryana due to pest attacks and diseases in cotton plants during the last two years;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to provide relief to affected crop farmers in these States; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to ensure that pest attacks like that of white fly are not repeated in the future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): During Kharif, 2015 whitefly infestation was reported in cotton crop in the State of Punjab and Haryana. As per the information received from the Punjab and Haryana Government, an area of 3.39 lakh hectare and 5.8 lakh hectare respectively was cultivated under the cotton crop during 2015-16. Approximately, all the cultivated area was affected in Punjab. However, in Haryana losses of more than 50 % were reported in 0.25 lakh hectare whereas less than 50% losses were reported in 5.28 lakh hectare.

(b): As per the information received from the Punjab and Haryana Government, an amount of Rs 669 crore and Rs 967 crore respectively has been paid as compensation to the affected farmers.

(c): Advisories have been issued to Cotton white fly affected States like Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan to maintain close vigil. State Government have been sensitized to organize regular meetings of State Pest Surveillance & Advisory Units (SPSAU) and District Pest Surveillance & Advisory Units (DPSAU) in order to monitor the pest and diseases of different crops. States have also been advised regularly through video conference to ensure timely availability of pesticides and bio-pesticides approved & recommended by CIB&RC for the control of pests and farmers are advised through extension machinery to use only recommended varieties/hybrids, dosage of fertilizers and pesticides as per recommendation and label claims.

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